1 **Abstract**

2 A mechanism provides for a conversation controller that enables services to carry out an

3 entire conversation without the service developers having to implement code to manage

4 conversation logic. The mechanism focuses on conversation functionality as opposed to business

5 functionality of the service and enables service developers to delegate conversational

6 responsibilities to the conversation controller, thus freeing the developers from having to

7 implement explicit conversation control mechanisms and allowing the services to interact

8 without having to explicitly support conversations. These distinctions help to provide an

9 extremely lightweight conversation controller capable of directing a service's conversations with

10 other services or clients.